

SOUTHERN FARM NOTES

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTER, STOCKMAN AND TRUCK GROWER

Applying Fertilizer When Planting.

While it is certainly true, in our experience, that the greater part of the fertilizer should be applied about two weeks before the crop is to be planted, well mixed in the soil of the bedding furrow and bedded on, there are circumstances that would justify a farmer in making one or more intercultural applications, including one at the actual date of planting. The following are such circumstances:

(1) When a farmer has not been able to secure the whole amount of his fertilizers before planting time.

(2) When he concludes, after his crop has been planted and is growing, that he did not buy and apply as much as he should have done before planting.

(3) When the yellowish green color and want of vigor in the appearance of the plants indicate that more nitrogen is needed by the crop. We believe it may be safely accepted as a general rule that a small portion of fertilizer should be applied with or near the seed at the time of planting. The effect of this small application is to supply the young plants with available food during the first stage of their growth, inducing prompt and vigorous development. For this purpose forty to fifty pounds per acre may be applied of the same fertilizer that had been bedded on two weeks before planting.

A second application of high-grade fertilizers may be made at the second or third plowing of cotton, or at six or eight inches height of the plants up to eighteen inches, or the middle to last of May, and the middle to last of June.

The intercultural applications may be made in the sowing furrow, or the fertilizer may be strewn along in the middles ahead of the plow or cultivator. There is no need to fear that the plants will not get the benefit of a high-grade fertilizer if put anywhere, on or between the rows. June 26 is the latest date at which the writer has ever applied fertilizer in this way to either corn or cotton, although there is little reason to doubt that even later applications would benefit the crop, but probably not enough to pay the cost of the fertilizer.

Two Suggestions About Corn.

During the winter time test the vitality of the corn by taking grains from different parts of the ear and placing them on moist sheets of blotting paper, which should then be folded securely and placed in a cigar box containing several moist newspapers. Wrap the newspapers over the blotters containing the grains from the several ears and leave them alone for two or three days. In this way the percentage of grain that will germinate, and the vitality of the seed can be ascertained. It will be surprising to see what differences there are in the inherent vitality of grains from certain ears. These grains should then be selected for the seed patch and the others discarded or used for general planting.

The relation of closeness of planting to yield is quite remarkable, and in experiments made by the writer the following results were obtained: Cocke's prolific corn planted in checks 30 inches apart yielded 54.11 bushels per acre; in checks 36 inches apart, 51.27 bushels; in checks 42 inches apart, 51.45 bushels; in checks 48 inches apart, 50.30 bushels; in checks 54 inches apart, 48.49 bushels; in checks 60 inches apart, 32.45 bushels per acre. There is a tendency to too wide planting in the South, due to the desire to grow a large stalk and a large ear. A large ear and a large stalk do not insure the largest yield, as this experiment, which is amply supported by many others, demonstrates. Too wide planting decreases the yield; too close planting is not desirable because the ears will not develop well. For varieties such as Cocke's Prolific, grown on uplands of moderate fertility, 42 inches or 3 1/2 feet, is a very satisfactory distance. Many farmers, however, insist on planting their corn in checks from four to five feet, and thus the yield is materially reduced. —A. M. Soule, Virginia Experiment Station, Blacksburg.

White Holland Turkeys For Farms. The poultry editor of the Progressive Farmer, in answer to a subscriber who wanted to know what was the best breed of turkeys for a small farm says:

Of the four varieties of turkeys there is none better suited for the small farm or where neighbors are close, than the White Holland. This breed does not grow as large as the black or bronze, but average, when properly looked after, a very good size, and their domestic habits are very much in their favor. They never

wander off—they range and roost with the chickens and even lay in the hen nests. April is a good time to hatch, since, like all turkeys, they require a long season to hatch, and the sooner off the better. Young turkeys require very little feeding, or I should say, eat very little when first hatched, and should not be fed under twenty-four to thirty-six hours after being hatched.

All turkey raisers seem to have their own ideas as to how best to feed their poults. When I raised turkeys I gave each one, as soon as hatched, a whole grain of black pepper, and sprinkled fine sand on the floor of the coop, and gave them nothing else for thirty-six hours. The first, in fact, all feeds until they were large enough to take care of themselves, consisted of cracked corn, oats, wheat, millet, cane and kafir corn seed, and four times a week meat in some form was given, either prepared beef scraps or fresh meat from the beef market. With such feed properly prepared one can raise ninety per cent, but failure will meet you more than half way if you try to raise turkeys from late hatch, immature stock, or when the male and females are closely related. Turkeys cannot stand inbreeding. Two or three year old stock are preferable to one year.

Keep Down the Vermis.

One disadvantage of our warm climate is the fact that vermin are always troublesome. Still they are not so numerous in winter as during the summer. So that now is a good time to get rid of them. A correspondent of Successful Farming says:

Begin the work of destruction before lice have secured a good start. Have the perches so arranged that they don't touch the walls of the house at any place. Then the mites, once they get on, can't get off the perches. Then once a week pour kerosene oil over the perches so plentifully that every part is covered. Pay particular attention to the underneath not reached by the oil. Any of the liquid lice killers advertised will do the work well. Perches should be movable, so that they can be taken outside occasionally and thoroughly scalded with boiling hot water.

Whitewash the walls of the house with a thick whitewash at least twice a year. Keep everything about the house clean; filth is conducive to rapid multiplication of the pests. They multiply rapidly. It is said that a house hatched to-day is capable of being a grandpa before to-morrow's sun goes down. If you catch him in his youth, "you'll have to hurry." For body lice, which aren't so harmful as the others, use Perlan insect powder. Dust an abundant quantity thoroughly among the feathers of each fowl. Unless the fowls are very tame, it is best to catch them and dust after they have gone to roost. It is a tedious, unpleasant task to handle each separate individual in this manner, but it is the only satisfactory way. Repeat the operation every ten days or two weeks, until you are certain that all have been exterminated.

An Emphatic Don't.

About this time of year irresponsible parties go around attempting to sell so-called "recipes for making fertilizers." A friend writes me: "Yesterday I had a man come to me with this recipe in his pocket, for which he paid \$5, and asked for the material for this fake fertilizer recipe." If any of your readers are offered an opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a fertilizer business—to learn how to make fertilizers for \$1 a ton—all by purchasing a \$5 recipe for making fertilizers, we wish to offer the advice:

Don't!

When you purchase a recipe for making fertilizers you are parting with your money for nothing. We have seen several of these recipes, and have yet to see one that was not worthless. The mixtures prepared according to the directions given are not worth the time and labor applied. Ingredients are called for which can be purchased only at drug stores at high prices, and, likely as not, are of no more value to the plants than a piece of coal would be. But even if you did happen to buy good directions for mixing a fertilizer—what then? You have paid your money for something that could be secured for nothing. The expert station will at any time send, without charge, directions for mixing any kind of fertilizer desired. But, as said before, we have never yet seen a fertilizer recipe sold for \$5, or any other price, that was not worthless. Do not buy fertilizer recipes.—G. S. Fraps, Chemist, Texas Experiment Station.

News and Notes.

Gov. Hughes (Ivory) is reported in the New York mayoralty contest.

The sentence of death passed on Raphael Gentile, an Italian, who shot Joe Piscanere at Piedmont in self-defense and was tried and convicted of murder at Hayes, has been commuted, and he has been placed in the Moundsville Penitentiary to serve a 12 year sentence.

In Washington
We first met thirty years ago,
He went to school at night,
For he was reading law, you know,
And he was very bright,
He wanted much to make his way,
Among the great to shine.
"So when I finish school," he'd say,
"I'm going to resign."

I left the good old city then,
Some twenty years or more,
Rolled by ere I went back again
To seek the chums of yore.
My former friends aside me led
And put his hand in mine.
"I won't be here next year," he said,
"I'm going to resign."

Last week I saw the dear old chap,
He was a little bent,
But gave my back a hearty slap
That almost left a dent.
His pale cheek grew a trifle red;
He stiffened up his spine.
"I won't be here next year," he said,
"I'm going to resign."

How They Got It.

"Yes," said the American, mag-nate, "I inherited \$40,000,000."
"Your ancestors must have been very honorable," suggested the Japanese visitor.

"Not too honorable. They took rebates whenever opportunity offered."

Birth of a Fad.

"Society is always looking for something new."

"For example?"
"Well, tea is old." So are cigarettes. But introduce tea cigarettes and there you are!

Don't buy everything that's cheap and you'll escape being taken in—Chinese.

The fisheries in Alaska have paid the Government more in revenues than Alaska cost the United States. This is where the Argo Red Salmon is caught and canned.

The kick of a camel is soft, but stunning—Turkish.

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The General Condemnation of So-Called Patent or Secret Medicines

of an injurious character, which indulge in extravagant and unfounded pretensions to cure all manner of ills, and the

National Legislation Enacted to Restrict Their Sale

have established more clearly than could have been accomplished in any other way

The Value and Importance of Ethical Remedies.

Remedies which physicians sanction for family use, as they act most beneficially and are gentle yet prompt in effect, and called ethical, because they are of

Known Excellence and Quality and of Known Component Parts.

To gain the full confidence of the Well-Informed of the world and the approval of the most eminent physicians, it is essential that the component parts be known to and approved by them, and therefore, the California Fig Syrup Company has published for many years past in its advertisements and upon every package a full statement thereof. The perfect purity and uniformity of product, which they demand in a laxative remedy of an ethical character, are assured by the California Fig Syrup Company's original method of manufacture, known to the Company only.

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This valuable remedy has been long and favorably known under the name of Syrup of Figs, and has attained to world-wide acceptance as the most excellent of family laxatives, and as its pure laxative principles, obtained from Senna, are well known to physicians and the Well-Informed of the world to be the best of natural laxatives, we have adopted the more elaborate name of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, as more fully descriptive of the remedy, but doubtless it will always be called for by the shorter name of Syrup of Figs; and to get its beneficial effects, always note, when purchasing, the full name of the Company, California Fig Syrup Co., plainly printed on the front of every package, whether you simply call for Syrup of Figs, or by the full name, Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, as Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is the one laxative remedy manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company, and the same heretofore known by the name, Syrup of Figs, which has given satisfaction to millions. The genuine is for sale by all leading druggists throughout the United States in original packages of one size only, the regular price of which is fifty cents per bottle.

Every bottle is sold under the general guarantee of the Company, filed with the Secretary of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C., the remedy is not adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act, June 30th, 1906.

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